

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, MX, CU

SUBJ: REMARKS BY MEXICAN FONSEC RABASA ON CHARTER OF ECONOMIC
RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES AND ON HIS RELATIONS WITH
CASTRO AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.

1. MEXICAN FONSEC RABASA COMMENTED TO THE LOCAL PRESS
UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN MEXICO CITY FROM PARIS ON SEPTEMBER 13,
1973, THAT POINT XIII OF THE FINAL DECLARATION OF THE
CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS WHICH RECENTLY MET IN ALGIERS
SUPPORTED THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES
IN THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

"THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS CONSIDER THAT THE UNGA DURING ITS
28TH SESSION SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO THE ELABORATION OF THE
CHARTER OF THE ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES. THAT
DOCUMENT SHOULD REFLECT THE ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS OF THE STATES
WHICH STRUGGLE TO OBTAIN TOTAL DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS THOSE
POSITIONS WHICH REFLECT THE DESIRES AND ASPIRATIONS OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY."

RABASA ADDED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO SECURE THE
SUPPORT OF THE GREAT POWERS FOR THE CHARTER.

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2. WITH REFERENCE TO HIS SUPPOSED QUARREL WITH FIDEL

CASTRO IN ALGIERS OVER THE RIGHT OF OBSERVERS TO ADDRESS THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS, RABASA DENIED THAT ANY DISAGREEMENT HAD OCCURRED AND AFFIRMED THAT THE MISUNDERSTANDING RESULTED FROM ERRONEOUS INFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY THE AP. RABASA ADDED THAT CASTRO HAD NOT ATTEMPTED TO KEEP HIM FROM SPEAKING AND HAD EVEN SENT CUBA'S REGARDS TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA OF MEXICO.

3. COMMENT: RABASA'S REMARKS ON THE CHARTER REFLECT THE MAIN REASON FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE: TO SECURE THE SUPPORT OF THE NATIONS IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE CHARTER. IN THIS TASK, HE SUCCEEDED. OBTAINING THE SUPPORT OF THE GREAT POWERS FOR A DOCUMENT HAVING LEGAL STATUS SHOULD PROVE CONSIDERABLY MORE DIFFICULT. ALTHOUGH RABASA PUBLICLY DOWNPLAYED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS DISAGREEMENT WITH CASTRO, IT WOULD SEEM THAT PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE INCIDENT DO HAVE SOME BASIS. AT THE LEAST, CASTRO'S CONDUCT IN ALGIERS DID NOT WIN HIM MANY NEW FRIENDS.
DEAN

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